

HERALD TRIBUNE

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Hungarian Political Prisoners

To the Herald Tribune:

We call your attention to the case of Tibor Pakh.

He is a Hungarian writer whose great-grandfather was one of the heroes of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848-49. He sent a memorandum to the United Nations in 1960 asking for intervention in the interest of those revolutionaries who are imprisoned in Hungary and in Siberia. The memorandum fell into the hands of the Hungarian government and Pakh was sentenced to death for high treason for writing the memorandum and for nothing else.

His death sentence was commuted to 15 years in prison. Now he is being held on the so-called "fourth ration," which means 60 forints a month, which equals \$2 a month. One-half of this sum must be paid by his relatives. This "fourth ration" is starvation diet.

Among the political prisoners arrested during or shortly after the Hungarian Revolution were eight young men whom the Kadar government would not execute because of their youth at the time of the sentence. Originally their number was 152. These were kept in the so-called "little prison" inside the Central Prison in Budapest. Of these 144 were eventually hanged, each on his 18th birthday, because by then the law considered them adults. The sentences of eight have been commuted to 10, 12 and 15 years' imprisonment. The petition for the release of these eight minors has been recently refused for the third time.

The mother of Bela Uvacsek, one of these minors, Mrs. Helen Dorosy, lives in California. She has petitioned Dean Rusk, Secretary of State of the United States, to intervene in behalf of her son. The intervention has been successful to the extent that a lawyer was finally procured for her son. However, the petition for clemency has been rejected.

Among the 75,000 revolutionaries who were deported to Siberia after the Revolution were 7,000 girls who were 14 to 18 years old when they were deported. They fought on the streets of Budapest during the Revolution. These girls are still detained in camps in Siberia. In their letters to their parents these girls are asking for help. The parents are in turn begging us to request the intervention of the United Nations.

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